

Arie Halachmi, who has earned a global reputation for his work at Tennessee State University's Institute of Government.

Over the last three decades, Dr. Halachmi has become one of the world's leading experts on public sector performance and productivity—an expertise that I know here in Congress cannot be valued too highly. During his distinguished career, Dr. Halachmi has served as a consultant to government agencies in more than a dozen countries around the world. Among the many nations that the worldwide demand for his services has taken him to are the Netherlands, China, Korea, Israel, Germany and Greece. He has received numerous national and international awards, including the Don Stone, Donato Pugliese, and Harold Lasswell awards, and is on the editorial board of nine different academic journals.

Dr. Halachmi was recently honored by his colleagues when he received a Faculty Showcase Award from TSU for his outstanding service to his institution and community. He has also received a "Goodwill Ambassador Award" from the governor of my State, Tennessee. I am proud to add my voice to the many others who have recognized the importance of Dr. Halachmi's work.

The worldwide reputation of scholars such as Dr. Halachmi is testament to the strength of Tennessee State University and to the strength of our Nation's academic institutions. We in Congress have an obligation to ensure that universities such as TSU remain adequately funded, and that our country's colleges and universities continue to lead the world in scholarship and expertise. My State is fortunate to have a wealth of leading academic institutions, including TSU, and I am proud to say that I am committed to maintaining their excellence.

On behalf of the citizens of the Fifth District of Tennessee, I congratulate Dr. Halachmi on his many contributions to American scholarship.

CELEBRATING CONSTITUTION WEEK AND CIVIC EDUCATION

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, this November millions of young people will take part in one of our most cherished American traditions, a cornerstone of citizenship, when they exercise their right to vote. As we celebrate Constitution Week, I'd like to encourage the members of this body, and teachers and parents everywhere to promote quality civic education. I am particularly encouraged by one national effort that seeks to promote that very goal in our schools.

Around this time last year, the first annual Congressional Conference on Civic Education was launched, sponsored by the Alliance for Representative Democracy and co-hosted by the four leaders of this and the other body.

The conference established delegations that returned to their states to enact specific policies to restore the oft-overlooked civic mission of our schools. I commend Russell Sage College Professor Stephen Schechter, and the other members of the New York State delegation, for their leadership to improve civic education in our state.

Our state delegation has joined with the New York State Education Department to convene a series of Civics Summits to identify our most pressing needs in civic education. They have brought together a consortium of over 25 governmental and nongovernmental organizations to determine how best to meet these needs, designed an action plan focusing on the importance of teacher training, and sought out funding from the private sector to begin their important work.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the New York State civic education delegation and wish them continued success when they participate in the Second Annual Congressional Conference on Civic Education in December.

HONORING JOAN LYNCH ON HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, when I was in fourth grade, my family moved back to Galeton, Colorado. Soon after starting school, I met a little girl named Cynthia Lynch. We quickly became best friends, and I grew to love her family as my own. I have always had a special place in my heart for her dear mother, Joan. Today, with love and gratitude, I honor Joan on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

Joan Lynch was born on October 12, 1924 in Greeley, Colorado, and is the third of five children. There was some confusion about her name. She was raised on the Colorado prairie by William and Kathryn Nelson who farmed northeast of Ault. In the depression and dust-bowl days of the 1930s, her family temporarily left the prairie to find work but did eventually return to the homestead her father had settled in 1915. She has always considered the prairie her home.

She has always had a passion for books and learning, especially history. She speaks of her education in the one-room school at "North Victor" as her favorite school experience. Her sisters and she walked a mile and a half to and from school each day, across an open prairie. She later graduated from Central City Colorado High School in 1942, and attended the Teacher's College in Greeley.

Joan and "Corky" Lynch, were married in 1946 and lived on the East Coast while he was stationed there in the Navy. I've seen pictures of them in those early days. What a goodlooking couple!

They returned to Colorado in 1947 and farmed in the Milliken area before moving in 1956 to the ranch where Joan continues to live today, northeast of Ault, and only a few miles from the homestead where she grew up. As teenagers, Cindy and I would always giggle and be slightly embarrassed when Corky would leave for work and give Joan a big kiss on his way out of the house. Really, though, we loved it.

Corky passed away in 1999 from cancer. He and Joan celebrated 53 years together. I am so thankful I was able to go and see him before he passed away. I told him how much I appreciated all he and Joan had done for me growing up. We both cried. The older he got, the more tender-hearted he became. He was 75 years old when he passed away.

I love Joan and I will never forget what she has done for me. As a young girl, she gave me lunch money when I needed it, and she put up with my frequent visits to spend the night. That love and support helped me get through the tough times and I will always hold that love in my heart. The way she has lived life has been a constant inspiration to me and her Christian example has always been present for all of us to see. May God bless her today as her family and friends celebrate her birthday. I love her dearly and cherish her as a second mother to me. I am pleased to honor a precious lady on this occasion of her 80th birthday.

PROCLAMATION THANKING LIEUTENANT CHARLES L. WILKINS III FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

We hereby offer our heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and community of Lieutenant Charles L. Wilkins III upon the death of this outstanding soldier; and

Whereas, Lieutenant Charles L. Wilkins III was a member of the 216th Engineering Battalion of the Ohio National Guard serving his great nation in the country of Iraq. He was a leader in his unit and is to be commended for the honor and bravery that he displayed while serving our nation in this time of war; and

Whereas, Lieutenant Charles L. Wilkins III will be remembered for his unsurpassed sacrifice of self while protecting others. His example of strength and fortitude will be remembered by all those who knew him.

Therefore, we join with the family, friends and the citizens of our great nation in thanking Lieutenant Charles L. Wilkins III of the United States Army for his service to our country. Your service has made us proud.

COMMENDING CARL G. STOECKLIN

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the attention of the U.S. House of Representatives to Carl G. Stoecklin upon the completion of his term as President of the National Association of Professional Insurance Agents (PIA).

Carl Stoecklin is a pillar of the insurance community in the State of Ohio. As President of the Broze Insurance Agency of Cincinnati, he has spent his entire professional career advising consumers about obtaining the best insurance coverage for their needs.

He has been honored as Professional Agent of the year by PIA of Ohio in 1995, and was the recipient of the prestigious Dow Reichley Award from PIA of Ohio in 1985.

Carl has served in many positions of responsibility in PIA for the past quarter century, including as President of the Ohio affiliate of the PIA and for the last year as the President of the national association.